## ***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

### *Claim Listing*

25. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
identifying a set of systems of a plurality of systems, wherein
each system in the set of systems meets a requirement for hosting a first application of a plurality of applications, and
the plurality of systems form at least one cluster; and
when the set of systems is empty,
using a respective priority for each of the applications for identifying a resource to free, wherein
the resource is one of a plurality of resources, and
each resource is associated with at least one of the plurality of systems.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein
the identifying the resource further comprises
using a respective capacity for each of the plurality of systems for identifying the resource.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
freeing the resource such that an associated system of the plurality of systems meets the requirement for hosting the first application.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 further comprising:
starting the first application on the associated system.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 wherein
the freeing the resource comprises stopping a second application that is using the resource, wherein the second application has a lower respective priority than a respective priority of the first application.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27 wherein
the freeing the resource comprises moving a second application that is using the resource to a second system of the plurality of systems, wherein
the second application has a lower respective priority than a respective priority of the first application.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
determining that the first application is to be started.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 31 wherein
the determining that the first application is to be started comprises
detecting that the first application failed.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31 wherein
the determining that the first application is to be started comprises
comparing a respective priority of the first application with each of a set of respective priorities for a set of the applications running on the plurality of systems, and
determining that the first application is to be started when the respective priority of the first application is higher than one of the set of respective priorities for the set of applications running on the plurality of systems.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein
the identifying the set of systems comprises
including a selected system in the set of systems when the selected system meets a prerequisite for the first application.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the identifying the set of systems comprises including a selected system in the set of systems when the first application does not exceed a limit for the selected system.

36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
an identifying module to identify a set of systems of a plurality of systems, wherein
each system in the set of systems meets a requirement for hosting a first application of a plurality of applications, and
the plurality of systems form at least one cluster; and
a priority module to use a respective priority for each of the applications for identifying a resource to free when the set of systems is empty, wherein
the resource is one of a plurality of resources, and
each resource is associated with at least one of the plurality of systems.

37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein
the priority module further uses a respective capacity for each of the plurality of systems for identifying the resource.

38. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 36 further comprising:
a freeing module to free the resource such that an associated system of the plurality of systems meets the requirement for hosting the first application.

39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising:
a starting module to start the first application on the associated system.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein
the freeing module comprises a stopping module to stop a second application that is using the resource, wherein

the second application has a lower respective priority than a respective priority of the first application.

41. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein
the freeing module comprises
a moving module to move a second application that is using the resource to a second system of the plurality of systems, wherein
the second application has a lower respective priority than a respective priority of the first application.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36 further comprising:
a determining module to determine that the first application is to be started.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42 wherein
the determining module comprises
a detecting module to detect that the first application failed.

44. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 42 wherein
the determining module comprises
a comparing module to compare a respective priority of the first application with each of a set of respective priorities for a set of the applications running on the plurality of systems, wherein
the determining module determines that the first application is to be started when the respective priority of the first application is higher than one of the set of respective priorities for the set of applications running on the plurality of systems.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein
the identifying module comprises
an including module to include a selected system in the set of systems when the selected system meets a prerequisite for the first application.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the identifying module comprises an including module to include a selected system in the set of systems when the first application does not exceed a limit for the selected system.